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COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH

URBAN AND PORT SANITARY
AUTHORITY.



THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health,
For 1927.

GREAT YARMOUTH:

Printed by C. A. CAMPLING, LTD., Town Hall Works,

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TOWN HALL,

GREAT YARMOUTH,

1928.

*To the Town Council of the County Borough of Great Yarmouth,
acting as the Urban and Port Sanitary Authorities.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Eighteenth Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, etc., on the vital statistics and sanitary administration of the Borough and Port of Great Yarmouth.

For reasons given in my 1921 Report, I am unable to accept the Registrar General's estimate of population. I have, therefore, throughout this Report, when giving a rate based on population, used both the Registrar General's figures and my own side by side.

The comparative vital statistics for the year 1927 are shown in the following Table.

	Great Yarmouth.		England and Wales.	London.	107 Great Towns.	155 Smaller Towns.
	Reg. Gen's. figures.	M.O.H's. figures.				
Death Rate	11.36	10.78	12.3	11.9	12.2	11.3
*Infantile death-rate		62	69	59	71	68
Birth Rate	16.0	15.2	16.7	16.1	17.1	16.4

* Per 1000 infant births.

The Death Rate and Infantile Death Rate remain at a low figure.

Special attention is also deserved by the figures for Old Age Deaths (Table III.) Over fifty per cent. of the deaths of Yarmouth residents occurred over the age of 65 years, and over thirty-two per cent. over the age of 75 years.

The Total Rainfall (average 24.48 inches) was 31.96.

The Mean Temperature (average 48.4) was 49.5.

The Total Hours of Bright Sunshine recorded was 1513.7.

No School Departments were closed by the Local Sanitary Authority during the year, but 110 patients and 126 contacts were temporarily excluded from school owing to infectious disease.

An Index to this Report will be found at the end of the volume.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. N. STEVENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) ...	3,598
Population at Census on June 19th, 1921 ...	60,710
„ estimated by the Registrar General for the middle of 1927 ...	58,500
„ estimated by Medical Officer of Health ...	61,682
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census, 1921) ..	14,059
Number of families or separate occupiers ...	14,340
Rateable value ...	£294,997
Product of a Penny General District Rate (8/- in the £) ...	£1,115
Product of a Penny in all other Rates (7/2 in the £)	£1,100
Total Revenue ...	£452,352
Net Indebtedness ...	£1,035,004

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS, ETC.

Births (legitimate), males 463, females 419	Total 882
Births (illegitimate), males 28, females 29	Total 57
Birth Rate (on Registrar General's population figure) ...	16.0
Ditto (on M.O.H's. figure) ...	15.2
Deaths (net, after allowing for deaths of non-residents and deaths of residents occurring outside the district) ...	795
Death Rate (on Registrar General's population figure)	13.58
Ditto (on M.O.H's. figure) ...	12.88
The same Death Rates as corrected by the Registrar General's standardizing factor ...	11.36 & 10.78
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth—from Sepsis ...	1
from other causes ...	0

Infantile Death Rate per thousand births:—

Legitimate 58, Illegitimate 105	...	...	Total 62
Deaths from Measles	...	...	1
„ „ Scarlet Fever	...	...	0
„ „ Whooping Cough	...	...	16
„ „ Diphtheria	...	...	2
„ „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	3

The following table shows how the principal causes of death compare with previous years.

NUMBER OF DEATHS.

			1927.	Decennial Average.
Enteric	...	...	2	0·9
Measles	...	...	1	7·3
Scarlet Fever	...	...	0	0·2
Whooping Cough	...	...	16	8·2
Diphtheria	...	...	2	3·8
Tuberculous Disease	...	..	65	70·9
Cancer	...	...	85	74·9
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	95	105·4
Diarrhœal Diseases	...	...	7	15·7
Wasting Diseases of Infants	...	...	30	31·9
Violence	...	...	33	20·9
Influenza	...	...	29	36·9

Ages at Death. Of the total number of deaths 11·8 per cent. occurred in infancy (0-5), 1·5 per cent. during school age (5-15), 36·2 per cent. during working life (15-65), and the remaining 50·5 per cent. in old age (over 65), while 32·2 occurred over the age of 75 years.

Infant Mortality. Fifty-eight children died before reaching the age of 12 months, giving an infantile death-rate of 62 per 1,000 births registered, being 13·3 below the decennial average.

Tuberculosis Death Rate. The unstandardized death-rate from Tuberculosis was, on the Registrar General's figures, 1·11 per thousand, comparing with a figure for England and Wales of 1·08 (1921-25).

TABLE III.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1927.

Causes of Death.	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS," WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.										TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS" OR "NON- RESIDENTS" IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	TOTAL DEATHS OF RESIDENTS IN INSTITUTIONS WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.
	All ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and under 75 years.	Over 75 years.		
		0	1	2	5	15	25	45	67	75	All ages.	All ages.
All Causes { Certified - { Uncertified	795 —	58 —	25 —	11 —	12 —	20 —	100 —	168 —	145 —	256 —	218 —	219 —
1 Enteric Fever	2	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
2 Small Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 Measles	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4 Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Whooping-cough	16	6	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6 Diphtheria	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
7 Influenza	29	1	1	—	1	1	4	8	7	6	4	4
8 Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lethargica	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
9 Meningococcal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
10 Tuberculosis of	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Respiratory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
System	59	—	1	—	—	10	37	10	1	—	10	15
11 Other Tuberculous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases	6	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	—	2	5	4
12 Cancer, Malignant	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disease	85	—	—	—	—	—	7	37	20	21	28	30
13 Rheumatic Fever	6	—	—	—	1	—	2	2	1	—	1	1
14 Diabetes	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	3	3
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	18	21	17	16
16 Heart Disease	107	—	—	—	—	1	5	20	32	49	4	3
17 Arterio-Sclerosis	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	16	—	—
18 Bronchitis	42	1	1	—	—	—	2	3	13	19	11	10
19 Pneumonia (all forms)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	43	6	8	2	1	—	4	6	9	7	13	10
20 Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	11	1	—	1	—	—	3	2	—	4	1	1
21 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	1	1	1
22 Diarrhœa, etc.	7	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
23 Appendicitis and Typhlitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	2
24 Cirrhosis of Liver	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—
25 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	29	—	—	—	—	—	5	10	5	9	13	14
26 Puerperal Sepsis	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
27 Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	30	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
29 Suicide	9	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	1	—	—	1
30 Other deaths from violence	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	24	—	2	1	3	3	4	4	3	4	9	7
31 Other defined diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	187	7	3	3	4	3	12	37	26	92	92	93
32 Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	795	58	25	11	12	20	100	168	145	256	218	219

THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1927.

(As Tabulated in Table III.)

A.—ZYMOTIC DISEASES NOT NOTIFIABLE DURING LIFE.

	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	Decennial Average.
Measles ...	1	9	3	1	5	3	0	6	5	40	1	7.3
Whooping Cough	16	3	12	2	4	24	5	4	12	9	7	8.2
Diarrhœa, under 2 years of age	3	5	2	7	14	6	21	4	17	9	10	9.5

B. ZYMOTIC DISEASES—(All Cases Notified).

Small-pox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ...	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diphtheria ...	2	0	1	3	2	3	5	4	6	4	10	3.8
Enteric Fever ..	2	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	0	3	0.9
Tuberculosis ...	65	61	89	80	80	72	84	76	79	103	77	70.9

C.—OTHER DISEASES.

Cancer ...	85	99	72	77	86	70	70	72	65	73	70	74.9
Influenza ...	29	15	18	20	4	37	13	7	161	9	19	36.9
Respiratory Diseases ...	95	69	104	100	93	133	107	86	139	99	112	105.4
Wasting Diseases of Infants ...	30	27	27	30	29	32	34	44	32	33	36	31.9

Infant Deaths. Fifty per cent. of the total occurred during the first month of life. The principal causes of infant deaths stated as percentages of the total were :—

Premature Birth	...	...	...	37·9
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	10·3
Pneumonia	...	...	...	8·6
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	6·8
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	6·8
Bronchitis	...	...	...	5·1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	3·4
Injury at Birth	...	...	...	3·4
Syphilis	...	...	...	3·4
Atelectasis	...	...	...	1·7
Influenza	...	...	...	1·7

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

Scarlet Fever. The increased incidence of this disease was continued and shared by the country generally. The case rates per 1000 living being 2·16 for England and Wales and 2·13 for Great Yarmouth.

Whooping Cough. This occurs in epidemics every few years; 1927 was one of these years, but the mortality was not high.

Measles. There was no epidemic in the year under review.

Diphtheria. The number of cases was far below the average. The case rate for Great Yarmouth being 0·55 per 1000 living as against 1·33 for England and Wales.

Tuberculous Disease. The deaths from this disease continue to decline. The notifications, however, show an increase, evidence that a larger proportion of non-fatal cases are now brought to notice.

Cancer. The deaths from cancer continue to show an increase on the decennial average. It appears that there is

a definite increase in the disease and not merely a shifting of cases from other, perhaps indefinite, categories to that of definitely diagnosed malignant disease.

Respiratory Diseases. Deaths from these diseases show an increase, but remain below the decennial average.

Diarrhæal Diseases. The deaths remain very low. This is very gratifying in comparison with the great mortality of infants from these diseases in former years.

Wasting Diseases of Infants. The deaths continue at a low level.

Enteric Disease. This disease used to be endemic in Great Yarmouth. It now only occurs occasionally. In 1927 there were an unusually high number--7.



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The Gorleston Isolation Hospital is reserved for the isolation of cases of Small Pox.

The Estcourt Road Hospital afforded accommodation to 83 per cent. of the total number of cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and "Typhoid Fever," which were notified during the year. There was no shortage of accommodation during the year.

ADMISSIONS, DEATHS AND DISCHARGES AT THE ESTCOURT ROAD AND GORLESTON HOSPITALS.

	Small Pox	Pneu- monia	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Group	Diph- theria	Other Diseases	Totals
Remaining on							
December 31st, 1926	0	0	10	1	3	0	14
Admitted during 1927	0	0	138	4	31	3	176
Died in Hospital	0	0	0	1	2	1	4
Discharged during 1927	0	0	130	4	22	2	158
Remaining on							
December 31st, 1927	0	0	18	0	10	0	28

ADMISSIONS INTO THE ESTCOURT ROAD AND GORLESTON HOSPITALS IN EACH MONTH OF 1927.

	Other Disease	Pneumonia	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Group	Diphtheria	Totals
January	0	0	0	14	1	0	15
February	0	0	0	17	0	1	18
March	0	0	0	7	1	1	9
April	0	0	0	10	0	0	10
May	0	0	0	10	0	3	13
June	1	0	0	6	0	1	8
July	2	0	0	8	0	2	12
August	0	0	0	8	0	2	10
September	0	0	0	12	2	2	16
October	0	0	0	22	0	6	28
November	0	0	0	16	0	4	20
December	0	0	0	8	0	9	17
	3	0	0	138	4	31	176

Includes 2 cases of Scarlet Fever and 1 of Diphtheria transferred from other Institutions.

The average number of patients in hospital was 20.

The average period of detention in hospital for each case completed during the year was :—

For Scarlet Fever	...	...	44·46 days.
For Diphtheria	...	...	39·66 days.

The number of patients removed to hospital in proportion to the number of notified cases was :—

For Scarlet Fever	...	...	82·4 per cent.
For Diphtheria	...	...	93·7 per cent.
For "Typhoid Fever"	...	...	57·1 per cent.

There are no hospitals for Tuberculosis, Maternity or Children in the area. The Great Yarmouth General Hospital and the Gorleston Cottage Hospital (each supported by voluntary contributions) and the Guardians' Infirmary provide for the general needs of the district.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) Infectious Diseases—Motor Ambulance provided by the Corporation; (b) Other cases—Motor Ambulance provided by the Red Cross and maintained by the Corporation (kept at Police Station and manned by the Police).

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.—The sessions are held every Thursday afternoon at the Gourlay School, Dene Side.

Advice is given to mothers on the care of themselves and babies, and dried milk distributed in suitable cases under the advice of the Medical Officer of Health.

The work of the Centre continues to grow rapidly, as it has proved a very popular Institution.

During the year, 147 expectant mothers and 714 babies had been dealt with. They paid a total of 7,461 visits.

The average attendance per session was 17 expectant mothers and 126 children. The number attending for the first time was 152 expectant mothers and 434 children.

Dried milk, to the extent of 19,971 packets, were distributed. Of this, 18,728 packets were given free, and contributions equal to the cost price of the remainder were made by the mothers.

Six babies attending the Centre died, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 8 per 1000 as against 62 per 1000 for the town generally.

SCHOOL CLINICS.—Minor Ailments and Inspection Clinics are provided by the Education Committee at the Education Office, and Town Hall, and a Dental Clinic, at the Gourlay Institute.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.—Up to April 25th, 1927, I continued to act as the sole Tuberculosis Officer, with my office at the Town Hall as the "Dispensary." On that date, Dr. W. Hunter Brown took up his duties as Assistant Tuberculosis Officer, and a greatly extended scheme came into operation. Since then the Tuberculosis Clinic in Dene Side has been opened (on May 25th, 1927), and a greatly increased number of beds have been utilized in various Sanatoria.

The Clinic has been open each day, excepting Sunday, from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; in the afternoons (excepting Thursdays and Saturdays) from 2.30 p.m.; and once a week in the evening at 7 p.m., to suit the convenience of patients who could not attend during the day. Most of the patients were seen by appointment, but many present themselves who are previously unknown. The Nurse is in attendance each morning and at other times if women are to be examined.

The work of the Clinic has been confined to:—

- i. *Examining all cases of Tuberculosis notified with a view to providing Sanatorium Treatment if such*

were indicated. In this connection it may be pointed out that the average number of notifications for the preceeding 5 years was 87, whereas in 1927 the number was 133. This increase to some extent is due to the notification of a number of old cases found to be not previously notified and to the notification of a number of children seen at the Clinic, but it would appear that the establishment of a Tuberculosis Clinic has brought about the notification of cases of Tuberculosis that formerly would have remained unnotified.

- ii. Examining all children who according to the School Medical Officer's records might be suspected to be, or were actually, suffering from Tuberculosis and recommending Sanatorium Treatment in suitable cases. Formerly no accommodation was available for the Sanatorium Treatment of Children under 16 years.

Children found to be Tuberculous	...	26
„ „ „ Doubtfully Tuberculous		22
„ „ „ Non-Tuberculous	...	45
Total		93
Child contacts examined, all Non-Tuberculous		10
Total No. of children examined		103
Children admitted to Sanatorium	...	3

- iii. Interviewing and examining as many as could be traced of cases notified since May, 1921.

Number of cases reviewed	...	452
„ dead	...	266
„ lost trace or left the district	...	57
„ not attended for examination	...	43
„ attended for examination	...	78
„ being treated in Sanatorium	...	8

It was found that of all persons notified in

1921	...	74.2 per cent.	were dead in Dec. 1927		
1922	...	71.0 per cent.		„	„
1923	...	56.7 per cent.		„	„
1924	...	59.3 per cent.		„	„
1925	..	59.4 per cent.		„	„
1926	...	32.7 per cent.		„	„

- iv. Examining and reporting upon cases sent by General Practitioners for diagnosis.
- v. Examination of Ex-service Pensioners on behalf of the Ministry of Pensions.
- vi. Examination of Contacts.—*i.e.* Persons who have been in close association with a case of Tuberculosis particularly families living in the same house. It has been found extremely difficult to get contacts to subject themselves to examination, but it is hoped that this difficulty will pass when they are taught the value of early observation in the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis.

In this connection 21 contacts were examined, all of whom were found to be Non-Tuberculous.

- vii. Laboratory Work at the Isolation Hospital.—103 specimens of sputum were examined in connection with the Clinic, and 109 for General Practitioners.

It has been the practice for the Nurse to make the preliminary visit to the home and if possible the person concerned has been asked to attend the Clinic for examination. If there was any doubt as to fitness to do so, the Medical Officer made the examination at home. In the case of every person suffering from Tuberculosis, the Nurse visits the home, records particulars as to the hygienic conditions of the patient's surroundings and gives such advice as may be practicable for the improvement of his condition. Should any insanitary condition prevail, this is duly reported to the proper authority.

The following figures relate to the work done :—

Total number of Physical Examinations	450
Number of Persons	303
Visits by Nurse to Homes	545
„ „ Medical Officer	35

The total figures for the year, relating to the work of both Dr. Brown and myself are as follows :—

New cases examined during the year ...	190
Contacts	21
Number of cases on the Dispensary Register on Dec. 31st, 1927 ...	240
Number of Dispensary cases who died during the year	35
Number of attendances at the Dispensary	539
Number of consultations with Medical Practitioners	55
Number of visits by Tuberculous Officer to Homes	31
Number of visits by Nurse for Dispensary purposes	545
Number of specimens of sputum examined	242

Arrangements are made for the reservation of beds at Sanatoria, as follows :—

Kelling Sanatorium :—

Civil beds (males)	7
Pensioner's beds	as required.

Stanninghall Farm Colony (for Ex-service men who have passed through sanatorium treatment):—Beds as required. N.B.—This institution is maintained by the Norfolk, Norwich and Great Yarmouth Authorities.

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital (for surgical tuberculosis cases): Beds as required.

Normanston Hospital (for acute and advanced cases): Ditto.

Bramblewood Sanatorium (females) :—4 beds.

Ipswich Sanatorium (females) :—As required.

The movements of patients during 1927 was as follows :—

	Admitted.	Discharged.
Kelling (civilian) ...	23	19
Kelling (pensioner) ...	4	4
Stanninghall (pensioner)	4	4
Stanninghall (civilian) ...	4	2
Bramblewood (women) ...	11	11
Ipswich (women) ...	11	4
Ipswich (boys) ...	3	0
N. & N. Hospital (pensioner)	1	1
Normanston (civilian) ...	4	1
Preston Hall (pensioner) ...	1	1
	<hr/> 66	<hr/> 47

The average number of patients undergoing Institutional Treatment was :—

Kelling (civilian) ...	11·3
Kelling (pensioner) ...	1·7
Stanninghall (pensioner) ...	2·0
Stanninghall (civilian) ...	2·1
Bramblewood (women) ...	3·8
Normanston (civilian) ...	0·9
Ipswich (women) ...	2·6
Ipswich (boys) ...	0·7
Preston Hall (pensioner) ...	0·2
N. & N. Hospital (pensioner)	0·01
	<hr/> 25·3

The average duration of completed cases was as follows :—

Kelling (civilian) ...	253·8 days.
Kelling (pensioner) ...	319·0 „
Stanninghall (pensioner) ...	222·5 „
Stanninghall (civilian) ...	126·5 „
Bramblewood (women) ...	127·1 „

Ipswich (women)	...	113·2 days.
Ipswich (boys)	...	(none discharged)
Normanston (civilians)	...	46 days.
N. & N. Hospital (pensioner)		5 „
Preston Hall (pensioner)	...	85 „

The number of patients in residence was :—

	Jan. 1st, 1927.	Dec. 31st, 1927.
Kelling (civilian)	... 9	13
Kelling (pensioner)	... 1	1
Stanninghall (pensioner)	... 2	2
Stanninghall (civilian)	... 0	2
Bramblewood (women)	... 4	4
Ipswich (women)	... 1	8
Ipswich (boys)	... 0	3
Normanston (civilian)	... 0	3
	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 36

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The Corporation shares the expenses of the clinic at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. During 1927 the Yarmouth patients treated there was as follows :—

	Old Cases.	New Cases.
Syphilis	... 20	15
Soft Chancre	... 0	0
Gonorrhœa	... 12	20
Not V.D.	... 0	5
	<hr/> 32	<hr/> 40

They made 473 attendances during the year. The in-patients spent a total of 35 days in the Hospital.

Bacteriological examinations :—

Wasserman test	...	...	90
For Spirochætes	...	...	10
„ Gonococci	...	...	58
Other	...	...	2
			<hr/> 160

Doses of Arseno-benzol compounds : 132.

(All given in Out-patient Department).

OFFICIALS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

- (t) A. N. STEVENS—*Medical Officer of Health of the Sanitary Districts of the County Borough and the Port, Medical Superintendent of the Borough Isolation Hospitals, School Medical Officer and Chief Tuberculosis Officer.*
- (t) D. WAINWRIGHT—*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Inspector.*
- (t) W. HUNTER BROWN—*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Tuberculosis Officer.*
- (t)†*S. HASSALL—*Chief Sanitary Inspector, Meat Inspector, Chief Inspector under the Food and Drugs Acts, &c.*
- (t)*A. E. LANG, (t)†*J. PILCH—*Assistant Sanitary Inspectors and Inspectors under the Food and Drugs Acts.*
- (t)*G. H. SPINKS—*Port Sanitary Inspector, Fish Inspector, Inspector under the Canal Boats and Shops Acts, and Assistant Sanitary Inspector.*
- (t)‡Miss I. SEARCH, (t)‡Miss M. L. BIRD, b.(t)‡MRS. MUNNS, b.(t)‡Miss BARR—*Health Visitors and School Nurses.*

J. MAXWELL—*Rat Officer.*

E. GARRETT—*Public Health Clerk.*

F. PARMENTER—*Junior ditto.*

G. WESTGATE—*Disinfecter.*

* Certificated Sanitary Inspector.

† Food Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

‡ Certified Midwife and Trained Nurse.

(t) Contribution to salary made by the Treasury.

b. Also act as Tuberculosis Nurses

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME is provided by the two nurses acting under the "Christmas Charity," one District Nurse under the Guardians, and one under the Gorleston Nursing Association.

MIDWIVES.

There was no evidence of a shortage of midwives during the year, owing greatly to the fact that in this town it is customary for medical men to be engaged for the majority of confinements.

The figures for this year are :—

Attended by Medical Men	697	54·4 per cent.
„ Registered Midwife	318	45·6 per cent.
„ Unregistered Midwife	Nil	Nil

There were three untrained certified midwives practising during the year, and four trained midwives.

The work of the midwives is automatically supervised by the infant visiting of the Health Visitors, all of whom are registered midwives. In addition, the Medical Officer of Health from time to time inspects their books and appliances.

Number of births attended by Midwives	...	318
„ „ „ in the Infirmary	...	5
„ „ „ in General Hospital	...	3
„ „ „ by " Handy Women "	...	Nil
„ „ „ in Gorleston Hospital	...	Nil

Midwives sent for medical assistance in 34 cases, as follows :—

Illness of mother	...	...	...	1
Illness of child	...	...	...	5
Obstruction	...	...	...	4
Delayed Labour	...	...	...	7
Cross-lie	...	...	...	Nil

Malposition	...	...	...	4
Placenta Praevia	...	...	...	Nil
Ruptured Perineum	...	...	...	2
Complicated breach	...	...	...	Nil
Ophthalmia Noenatorum	...	...	...	3
Accidental Hemorrhage	...	...	...	Nil
Premature twins	...	...	...	2
Post Partum Hemorrhage	...	...	...	1
Ante Partum Hemorrhage	...	...	...	2
Deformity of Child	...	...	...	2
Retained Placenta	...	...	...	1
				—
				34
				—

REGISTRATION OF MATERNITY HOMES.

Part II.—Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926.

1.	Number of applications for registration	...	...	6
2.	Number of homes registered	...	...	6
3.	Number of orders made refusing or cancelling registration	...	...	Nil
4.	Number of appeals against such orders	...	...	Nil
5.	Number of cases in which such orders have been			
	(a) confirmed on appeal	...	..	Nil
	(b) disallowed	...	...	Nil
6.	Number of applications for exemption from registration	...	...	Nil
7.	Number of cases in which exemption has been			
	(a) granted	...	...	Nil
	(b) withdrawn	...	...	Nil
	(c) refused	...	...	Nil

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GREAT YARMOUTH.

LIST OF LOCAL ACTS.

1. The Great Yarmouth Paving Act, 1810.
2. Great Yarmouth Corporation Act, 1897.
3. Ditto 1899.
4. Ditto 1904.
5. The Great Yarmouth(Burgh Castle Drainage) Act, 1909
6. The Great Yarmouth Port and Haven Act, 1911.

LIST OF ADOPTED ACTS.

- | | Date of Adoption. |
|--|--------------------|
| 7. Infectious Disease (Notification) Act,
1889. | 12th Nov., 1889. |
| 8. Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act,
1890. | 14th Oct., 1890. |
| 9. Public Health Acts Amendment Act,
1890, Parts 2, 3, 4 and 5. | } 14th Oct., 1890. |
| 10. Private Street Works Act, 1892. | 13th Feb., 1894. |
| 11. Public Health Acts Amendment Act,
1907. | |
| Secs. 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 33,
Part II. | |
| Secs. 34, 35, 36, 45, 50 and 51, Part III. | 17th Feb., 1910. |
| Secs. 52, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61,
62, 63, 64, 66 and 68, Part IV. | |
| Part V. | |
| Secs. 93 and 95; Part X. | |
| Secs. 80, 84, 85, 86, Part VII. and
Part VIII. | 19th May, 1911. |
| Sec. 92, Part X. | 17th Nov., 1911. |
| 12. Notification of Births Act, | 12th April, 1901. |

WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

During the year there has been an extension of this branch of Maternity and Child Welfare work. The staff has been gradually extended until it reached one short of the intended maximum (this was finally attained in the early part of the following year 1928). At the end of the year the position was as follows:—Four Health Visitors and School Nurses and one Clerk Attendant at the Dental Clinic. The division of labour being as follows:—(a) the proportion of time to Maternity and Child welfare being equivalent to one-and-a-half nurses, (b) to Tuberculosis half a nurse, and (c) to School Medical Work two nurses and one Dental Attendant. Immediately after the year under review the final appointment was made, enabling the proportionate time to be:—(a) Maternity and Child Welfare two-and-a-half nurses, (b) Tuberculosis half a nurse, and (c) School Work two nurses and one Dental Attendant.

For the work done under the Tuberculosis Scheme see pages 13, 15.

Following are the Home Visiting figures with further information as to Maternity and Child Welfare work.

The total number of visits during the year was 4781 as follows:—

In connection with the visitation of children:—

At homes of legitimate infants	..	3411
At homes of illegitimate infants	...	109
At homes of legitimate children (1-5 years)		565
At homes of illegitimate children (1-5 years)		161
At homes where infant's death or still-births had occurred	...	75
Special ante-natal visits	...	16
<i>Carried forward</i>	...	— 4337

<i>Brought forward</i>	...	...	4337
In connection with midwives	...	...	52
In connection with cases of pneumonia	...	...	50
		—	102
In connection with the medical inspection of school children :—			
To arrange with teachers at the school <i>re</i> inspection	...	...	58
To ascertain if medical advice had been carried out	...	...	234
To mental defectives	...	...	140
To investigate special cases, poliomyelitis, tubercle, scarlet fever, etc.			272
To attend inspection at schools	...	...	128
Other visits to schools	...	...	236
		—	1068
			<u>5507</u>

The total number of children visited was 2165 as follows :—

	Living.	Dead.	Stillborn.	Total.
Legitimate	2040	48	19	2107
Illegitimate	50	6	2	58
				<u>2165</u>

The total number of visits to these children was :—

Infants under 1 year: 1st visit to legitimate children, 813; to illegitimate children, 50; total, 3595. Children 1 to 5 years: legitimate, 565; illegitimate, 161; total, 726.

The four cases of Ophthalmia notified were kept under observation until well

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT.

This Act provides that, in addition to registration, notification has to be sent in to the Medical Officer of Health

within 36 hours of birth. It is still found that a proportion of births are not notified owing to ignorance or misunderstanding of the Act, but very rarely it happens, if at all, that the requirements have been wilfully evaded. During the year 80 per cent. of the total live-births were thus notified, in addition to 21 still-births.

Of these 318 were notified by midwives, and 439 by parents and doctors.

Fourteen of the illegitimate births were not notified. All the births attended by midwives were notified. (Of cases attended by Doctors, 182; *i.e.*, 29 per cent. were not notified).

During the year the Health Visitors paid 4321 visits to the homes of 2165 children (of whom 2090 were living). Advice was given on the feeding and management of the baby, general hygiene of the home and general hygiene of the mother. The result of the enquiries into methods of infant feeding is as follows :—

Number of births enquired into :—

Legitimate	...	...	813	
Illegitimate	...	...	50	
			—	863

Number of infants re-visited from previous years :—

Legitimate	...	...	560	
Illegitimate	...	...	16	
			—	576
Older children (1—5)		...		726
				—
				2165

These children were found to be fed as follow :—

		Total Visited.	Breast only.	Partly Breast.	No Breast at all.
1st month of life	...	863	80%	2%	18%
4th month	...	826	59%	5%	36%
8th month	...	708	48%	still on breast or part breast, the majority on breast alone, at nine months.	
12th month	...	469	15%		

The children (418 in number) who were found to be receiving some artificial feeding before the age of eight months, were fed as follows:—

		Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
Cow's milk	... ..	26	6
Condensed milk, mainly	...	73	9
Patent foods and mixed diet		22	—
Dried milk	... ..	325	19
		<u>446</u>	<u>34</u>

No tube bottles were found in use, but the practice of giving bread and biscuit pap during the early months of life has not yet ceased.

In fifty-four cases enquiries were made after the death of the infants. Three of these children died of diarrhœa. They were fed as follows:—

Legitimate.

Illegitimate.

	Under 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	Under 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths
Breast only	I	—	—	I	—	—	—	—	—	—
Breast partly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cow's milk, mainly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dried milk	—	I	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Patent foods and mixed diets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No information obtainable	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	I	I	—	I	—	—	—	—	—	—

Seven hundred and twenty-six children were visited at a somewhat later age, most of them being between 2 and 5 years old. In the younger ones dentition was, as a rule, well

advanced, seventeen being noted as backward in this respect. Sixty-nine children had their teeth beginning to decay and twenty others had bad teeth at a fairly early age. Thirteen were found to be suffering from rickets and twenty-five others from some other condition requiring medical treatment which the parents were advised to obtain if they had not already done so. The larger number of these little ones had a certain quantity of fresh milk in their diet, but forty-one were having tinned milk only, and twenty-three were getting no fresh milk.

The remaining fifty-one infants, whose death formed the subject of enquiry, were found to have been fed as follows, omitting twenty-three over a year old.

Legitimate.

Illegitimate.

	Under 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths	Under 1 mth	1-3 mths	3-6 mths	6-9 mths	9-12 mths
Breast only	15	3	2	2	—	1	2	—	—	—
Breast partly	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cow's milk mainly	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Condensed milk mainly	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dried milk	3	2	2	—	1	2	1	—	—	—
Patent foods and mixed diets	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Breast at 3rd vis., no further information	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
No information obtainable	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
	22	9	5	4	5	3	3	—	—	—

The general standard of cleanliness and order in the homes visited was very satisfactory, as shown in the following percentages :—

STANDARD.

Total Homes Visited.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
2165	42%	28%	18.2%	11.8%

Taking the homes of living and dead children separately :—

	Homes Visited.	Excellent.	Good.	Fair.	Bad.
Living	2090	39.4%	31.8%	22.8%	8.6%
Dead	75	12.1%	45%	36%	6.9%



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of twenty-four, all the Dwelling-houses in the Borough are supplied from the Company's mains. Samples of the public supply are examined monthly, both chemically and bacteriologically, by the Public Analyst, and quarterly by Mr. Muter for the Town Council, and are of uniform good quality. The water is obtained from the Ormesby Broad and the River Bure, and after sand filtration is pumped into the mains.

The greatest care is taken by the Water Company to prevent contamination of the water sources, and with the very efficient system of filtration, following sedimentation, in operation, I have full confidence that the public water supply will continue to remain in its present safe condition.

There are still twenty-four wells remaining in the Borough. Many of these are without doubt liable to pollution at times, but unless the samples for analysis happen to be taken at one of those times they cannot be dealt with.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are about 16,960 W.C's., 80* privies and 32 ashpits in the Borough. Most of the houses are provided with portable iron dustbins. The house refuse is collected twice weekly from private houses and daily during the visiting season from hotels and boarding-houses.

During the year 16,142 tons of refuse was collected from houses, and 981 tons of trade refuse carted by shopkeepers to the Destructor or dumps.

* Eleven for temporary use during the Fishing Season.

SCAVENGING.

Three steam wagons (one only two days a week), three motor lorries, one horse wagon, two horse carts, and two trailers hauled by steam wagons are used in the Borough for the collection of refuse.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

SIR,

I have much pleasure in submitting to you my Thirty-first Annual Report of the work carried out in the above department during the year 1927. Particulars as to the nature and number of nuisances reported to the Health Committee, and dealt with by statutory notices, also works of a similar nature, but dealt with by preliminary notices.

TABLE A.

	Number of Visits.
Complaints received and attended to ...	629
Visits in connection with infectious diseases ...	455
Re-inspections to ascertain the progress of Sanitary notices ...	2993
Bake-house inspections ...	122
Common lodging-house inspections (day-time) ...	264
Common lodging-house inspections (night-time) ...	84
Slaughter-house and knackers' yard inspections ...	420
Offensive trades and marine store inspections ...	221
Factories, workshop and work-places inspected ...	1498
Dairies, cow-sheds and milk shops inspected ...	757
Visits to ice cream vendors ...	95
Butchers', provisions and fruiterers' shops ...	140
Samples of water submitted for analysis ...	4
Samples of food, etc., submitted for analysis ...	122
Rooms disinfected after infectious disease ...	514
Special visit to fish shops ...	94

TABLE A.—*continued.*

Number of Visits.

Houses, schools and workshops at which the smoke, water or chemical tests have been applied to the drains 						154
Prosecutions under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act						6
Visits <i>re</i> Shops Acts						640
Stables inspected						52
Public conveniences inspected						132
Fair vans inspected						41
School sanitary arrangements inspected						64

TABLE B.

During the year the following works have been carried out under Statutory and Preliminary Notices, the number of notices served being 182 Statutory and 219 Preliminary.

					Number.
Privies replaced with water closets					4
New drains laid					42
Drains cleaned and repaired					357
Pedestal closets provided					11
Earthenware gulley-traps fixed					214
Flushing cisterns fixed to closets					17
Filthy houses cleansed and limewashed					19
Offensive accumulations removed					41
Nuisances from overcrowding abated					3
Animals and poultry removed					62
Water closets repaired					292
New sinks erected					33
Drains intercepted from sewers					35
Rainwater cisterns abolished					15
Sink waste pipes disconnected					19
Yards, passages and floors concreted					249
Drains ventilated					147
Spouting and fall pipes provided					432
Cow-sheds and slaughter-houses limewashed					21
Bake-houses limewashed					74
Houses provided with Company's water					3
Damp courses inserted					163

TABLE B.—*continued.*

				Number.
Houses ventilated	...	...	...	72
Nuisances from premises being used as a fried fish				
shop abated	...	...	...	2
Rainwater pipes disconnected from drains			...	117
Dilapidations made good	...	...	...	2,232
Under floor spaces ventilated	...	...	...	168
Manure bins provided	...	...	...	5
Miscellaneous items	...	...	...	2,313

DRAIN TESTING.

During the year, 629 complaints have been received from householders and others, respecting the conditions of the drains and sanitary fittings of houses and other premises. An examination of the sanitary arrangements was made in every instance, and, if necessary, the smoke test was applied to the drains. This resulted in the detection of 52 defective drains, also many other nuisances. The necessary notices were served in the usual course, and in every instance the terms of the notices were complied with. The drains were also tested at all houses where cases of Typhoid Fever, Puerperal Fever or Diphtheria had occurred.

The total number of drain tests made during the year was 154, and the number of defects found was 87. Particulars as to the nature of these defects are given in the following table :—

TABLE C.

Showing the localities of sewer gas escapes discovered by drain testing :—

				Number.
Into Breakfast rooms	...	...	...	16
„ Kitchens and Sculleries	...	...	...	21
„ Bedrooms	...	...	...	4
„ Lobbies and other parts of houses	...	...	...	15
„ Internal w.c.'s	...	...	...	6
„ External w.c.'s	...	...	...	35

TABLE C.—*continued.*

				Number.
Into Yards and passages	...	...	...	11
„ adjoining houses	...	...	...	4
„ Cellars	...	...	...	5
From defective soil pipes	...	...	...	22
„ defective vent shafts	...	...	...	18
„ heads and joints of rainwater pipes	...	...	...	4
„ around yard gullies	...	...	...	10
„ defective drain connections	...	...	...	53
„ defective w.c. connections	...	...	...	34
„ defective interceptors	...	...	...	10
„ sink, wastes, rainwater pipes, etc., connected				
direct	...	...	...	14
„ drains, direct to sewer	...	...	...	7

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS INSPECTION.

Premises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions.
Factories	64	—	—
Workshops (including workshop, laundries and fish-curers)	671	31	—
Work places (including fish-yards)	787	27	—
Home-workers' premises	28	—	—
Totals	1550	58	Nil

DEFECTS FOUND.

		Number of Defects Found.	Number of Defects Remedied.	Number of Prosecutions.
Want of cleanliness	...	9	9	—
Want of ventilation	...	5	5	—
Want of drainage of floors	...	2	2	—
Defective drains	...	2	2	—
Offensive accumulation on premises	...	16	16	—
No water supply	...	1	1	—
Sanitary Accommodation	Insufficient	11	11	—
	Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—
	Not separate for sexes	2	2	—
Totals		51	51	Nil

HOME WORK.

	Number.
List of out-workers received twice in the year ...	16
Total number of out-workers on lists ...	43

NATURE AND NUMBER OF REGISTERED AND
UNREGISTERED FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES
VISITED DURING THE YEAR.

(Excluding Out-workers' premises).

Nature.	Number of Visits.
Shoemakers ...	83
Tinsmiths ...	6
Dressmakers ...	14
Net chambers ...	59
Barrel factories ...	11
Box makers ...	19
Bakehouses and confectioners ...	359
Tailors ...	72
Sugar boilers ...	65
Laundry ...	17
Upholsterers ...	10
Plumbers and painters ...	78
Ice cream manufacturers ...	194
Carpenters ...	47
Engineers ...	16
Stonemasons ...	8
Fish-houses and yards ...	657
Mineral water works ...	14
Wheelwright ...	3
Blacksmith ...	7
Coach-builder ...	6
Clothing Factory ...	3
Foundry ...	3
Bottling store ...	14
Printer ...	19
Wood turner ...	3
Silversmith ...	3
Marine stores ...	192
Metal workers ...	2

Nature.				Number of Visits.
Hair dressers	...	...	...	49
Harness maker	...	...	...	13
Cork cutter	...	...	...	2
Coopers	...	...	...	42
Motor and cycle engineers	...	...	...	31
Milliners	...	...	...	11
Sail maker	...	...	...	2
Sack maker	...	...	...	2
Boat builder	...	...	...	4
Piano works	...	...	...	2
Bedding manufacturer	...	...	...	10
Manufacturer of leather goods	...	...	...	6
Twine spinner	...	...	...	2
Tripe dresser	...	...	...	38
Locksmiths	...	...	...	4
Scale maker	...	...	...	6
Whitesmiths	...	...	...	2
Basket makers	...	...	...	19
Dentists' workshops	...	...	...	16
Mast and block maker	...	...	...	13
Builders	...	...	...	81
Picture framers	...	...	...	5
Cabinet makers	...	...	...	14
Furrier	...	...	...	2
Firelighter works	...	...	...	4
Total				2309

NUMBER OF WORKSHOPS ETC. ON THE REGISTER AT THE
END OF THE YEAR 1927.

Nature.				Number.
Bakehouses	...	...	...	77
Baking powder makers	...	...	...	2
Bedding manufacturers	...	...	...	3
Boat builders	...	...	...	4
Bottling store	...	...	...	4
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	14
Box makers	...	...	...	1
Builders	...	...	...	8

Nature.				Number.
Basket makers ...	...	...	...	12
Carpenters and joiners ...	...	...	...	35
Confectioners ...	...	...	...	22
Coopers ...	...	...	...	10
Engineers ...	..	...	...	8
Ice Manufactories ...	...	...	...	2
Motor engineers ...	...	...	...	16
Wood-choppers ...	...	...	...	2
Printing works ...	...	...	...	4
Carriage builders ...	...	...	...	6
Cabinet makers ...	...	...	...	10
Gas fitters ...	...	...	...	4
Blind makers ...	...	...	...	2
Jam and preserve boilers ...	...	...	...	2
Furriers ...	...	...	...	2
Marine fitters ...	...	...	...	6
Cycle engineers ...	...	...	...	17
Stonemasons ...	...	...	...	4
Mast and block makers ...	...	...	...	3
Gut scrapers ...	...	...	...	2
Cork cutters ...	...	...	...	2
Dressmakers ...	...	...	...	68
Fish curers, etc. ...	...	...	...	339
Foundries ...	...	...	...	2
Hairdressers ...	...	...	...	46
Lock and tinsmiths ...	...	...	...	12
Laundries ...	...	...	...	5
Milliners ...	...	...	...	28
Marine stores ...	...	...	...	9
Netting chambers ...	...	...	...	39
Outfitters ...	...	...	...	7
Oilskin manufacturers ...	...	..	...	4
Picture framers ...	...	...	...	3
Plumbers and painters ...	...	...	...	11
Scalemakers ...	...	...	...	3
Sailmakers ...	...	...	...	6
Tailors ...	...	...	...	46
Tripe dressers ...	...	...	...	2

Nature.					Number.
Whitesmiths	...	...	...	...	2
Wood turners	...	...	...	...	1
Wheelwrights	...	...	...	...	6
Shoemakers	...	...	...	...	89
Upholsterers	...	...	...	...	6
Ice cream manufacturers	...	...	...	...	88
Hide, skin and fat merchants	...	...	...	...	1
Saddlers	...	...	...	...	5
Hosiers	...	...	...	...	3
Weavers	...	...	...	...	1
Dentists	...	...	...	...	9
Mineral water manufacturers	...	...	...	...	3
Chemical works	...	...	...	...	1
Piano manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Sheet metal workers	...	...	...	...	1
Pickle manufacturers	...	...	...	...	1
Firelight makers	...	...	...	...	1
Twine spinners	...	...	...	...	2
Total					1135

PUBLIC HEALTH (SMOKE ABATEMENT) ACT, 1926.

Complaints were received during the year from residents regarding the emission of soot and grit from a Railway Company's locomotive shed. Observations were taken and a Notice under the above Act was served on the Railway Company, with the result that greater care was exercised and an improvement effected.

No other complaints of smoke nuisance were received during the year.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

SAMUEL HASSALL.

OCCUPATIONS, ETC., WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY
BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Offensive Trades, etc.:—

Nature.				Number.
*Fried fish shops	...	...	...	63
Tallow melter	...	...	...	1
Tripe dresser	...	...	...	2
Marine stores	...	...	...	9
Knacker	...	...	...	1
Slaughter-houses	...	...	*16 registered	
			1 licensed	

* Bye-laws.

*Underground Bake-houses:—*None.

*Common Lodging-houses:—*5 with accommodation for 9 females and 105 males.

SCHOOLS.—The sanitary conditions and water supply of the schools remain satisfactory. I have little faith in school closure in outbreaks of infectious disease in urban areas of this nature, and as a consequence no school departments were closed during the period under review, but 110 patients and 126 contacts were temporarily excluded by me in cases of infectious disease. See also under Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria for action taken *re* contacts.



HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	348
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	276

I.—Unfit Dwelling Houses.

INSPECTION.

(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	..	...	...	689
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	—
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	—
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	241

II.—Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	219
---	-----	-----	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A. *Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	108
---	-----	-----	-----	-----

(2)	Number of dwelling houses rendered fit		
	(a) by owners	... ..	92
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	6
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	... ..	—

B. *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	.. ..	74
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied:—		
	(a) by owners	... ..	69
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	—

C. *Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the
Housing Act, 1925.*

(1)	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders		—
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	—
(3)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been ren- dered fit	... ..	—
(4)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	—
(5)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

In all cases of applications for registration dairies and milk shops were inspected by the Medical Officer of Health. In the past it has been difficult to insist on satisfactory conditions in cases where milk is merely a side line, *e.g.*, small general shops. Under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, much wider powers are given to the Local Authority, and since its coming into force greater strictness has been observed in enforcing satisfactory arrangements as a condition of registration. I decided that, after the year 1926, I would not recommend the Council to register a general shop-keeper as a purveyor except under the condition that milk is sold only in sealed bottles.

New dairies should be strictly in accordance with the Order previous to registration, and the existing dairies after a reasonable interval, should be brought up-to-date as far as structural circumstances will permit.

I personally inspected all cow-sheds in the Borough in 1926. Many of these need very strict application of the Order as, and when, its various provisions come into operation. Although there are 10 cow-keepers on the register, the total number of cows is only 150 in 12 cow-sheds.

There is only one person licensed under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, a Dealer in Grade A, Tuberculin Tested Milk.

The statistics for the year are:—

		Applications during 1927.	No. on Register Dec. 31st, 1927.
Purveyor	...	18	74
Dairymen	...	12	38
Cow-keeper	...	0	10
Cow-sheds	...	0	12

MEAT, ETC.

Slaughter-Houses.

		In 1914.	In Jan., 1927.	In Dec., 1927.
Registered	...	21	16	16
Licensed	...	1	1	1
		—	—	—
		22	17	17
		—	—	—

The usual supervision is exercised by your Chief Sanitary Inspector with respect to food exposed for sale, or in preparation for human consumption in the Borough, which includes frequent inspections to slaughter-houses, butchers' shops, fish and poultry shops, greengrocers' and grocers' shops, market stalls, and other places where foods are sold, etc. It is satisfactory to know that the various tradesmen, and more especially the butchers, in the Borough, have accorded him every facility and readily carried out his instructions and advice with regard to unsound, unwholesome, or diseased food, so that although there is no public abattoir, nearly every carcase is inspected at the time of or immediately after slaughter.

The improvement effected since the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, came into force is fairly well maintained, but constant supervision is necessary. Several complaints have been made with regard to dirty vehicles being used for conveying meat, and letters of caution have been sent to the dealers concerned.

Tuberculosis.—The number of carcases destroyed was as follows :—

Heifer	...	...	...	..	2
Pig	...	...	...	...	1
Cow	...	...	...	...	1
Bullock	...	...	...	...	1

Unsound Food seized and Surrendered.

1927.

Heifer	2 carcasses	}	Tuberculosis
Pig	1 „		
Cow	1 „		
Bullock	1 „		
Beef 10 cwts. 3 qrs. 1 st. 2 lbs.			
Sheep	1 carcase		
Beef	6 cwts. 2 qrs. 1 st. 6 lbs.		
Pears	2 tons 8 cwts.		
Corned Beef	6 lbs.		
Ham	15 lbs.		
Ox Tongue	3 tins		
Ice Cream	$\frac{1}{2}$ gallon		
Roker	1 trunk		
Smoked Haddock	1 box		
Bovine tongue	1 tin		

Nearly 2 tons of fish were seized or surrendered to the Fish Inspector at the Wharf during the year. The fish were destroyed after being formerly surrendered by the owners. The particulars are as follows :—

Description.	Estimated Weight.		
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.
Cases Iced Mackerel	...	9	2
Mackerel	...	2	0
Dabs	...	1	2
Large Plaice	...	1	3
Whitings	...	5	2
Crans of Herrings	...	12	0
Haddocks	...	2	0
Dogfish	...		3
Total	...	1	15 0

Adulteration, etc.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The following table shows the number of samples obtained and submitted for examination, with results of analysis:—

	Number of Samples submitted to the Analyst.	Result of Analysis	
		Genuine.	Adulterated.
Milk	66	58	8
Butter	10	10	—
Jam	4	4	—
Lard	6	6	—
Ice Cream	6	6	—
Chocolate	2	2	—
Margarine	6	6	—
Cheese	6	6	—
Coffee	2	2	—
Potted Meat	3	3	—
Bottled Plums	1	1	—
Preserved Cream	4	4	—
Skimmed Milk	2	2	—
Tinned Tomatoes	2	2	—
Apples	2	2	—
	122	114	8

The details of the adulteration found in the samples of milk, with the results of magisterial or other proceedings, are as follows:—

Adulteration.		Proceedings.
1.	9 per cent. devoid of fat ...	Case dismissed.
2.	3 per cent. devoid of fat ...	Cautioned.
3.	6 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. added water ...	Case dismissed.
4.	6 per cent. devoid of fat ...	Fined 10/- and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
5.	8 per cent. devoid of fat ...	Fined 10/- and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
6.	14 per cent. devoid of fat ...	Fined £1 and £1 1s. 0d. costs.
7.	14 per cent. devoid of fat ...	Fined £1, including costs.

The following figures, giving the average percentage of milk fat, in each month, of all samples examined during the past ten years, is of interest in view of the often repeated defence that the standard of three per cent. is too high, or that alternatively certain months of the year are characterised by production of poor milk.

Month.	Average percentage of milk fat for ten years.		
January	3.61
February	3.72
March	3.64
April	3.69
May	3.69
June	3.47
July	3.79
August	3.68
September	3.83
October	3.68
November	3.68
December	3.70

The average percentage of all samples for the whole ten years was 3.69.

When the above figures are borne in mind, the percentage of adulteration in a sample unfavourably reported on by the Public Analyst is usually greater than is indicated by a calculation based on the figure of three per cent. adopted by the Board of Agriculture in forming the Sale of Milk Regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK AND CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912 AND 1917.

MILK.—Sixty-six samples were examined; none contained preservatives.

PRESERVED CREAM.—Four samples were examined:—

Percentage of Boric Acid found in each sample.	Ditto stated on Statutory Label.
0.24 per cent.	0.4 per cent.
0.14 per cent.	„
0.12 per cent.	„
0.36 per cent.	„

Each sample contained over 41 per cent. milk fat.

CREAM.—No samples were examined.

CONDENSED AND DRIED MILK REGULATIONS.

As there appear to be only two well-known brands of dried milk and equally well-known brands of condensed milk sold in the district, it did not appear necessary to take action under these regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS.

All samples in the list under the heading on page 45 were examined also for preservatives. No offence under these Regulations was found.



PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

Notifiable Diseases.

In the following Table a comparison is made between the number of notifications in 1927 and in the previous ten years :—

Year	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever	Enteric	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Total
1917	0	23	7	84	7	2	18	123
1918	0	20	4	57	18	1	14	100
1919	0	44	7	86	28	2	13	167
1920	0	63	1	76	10	2	13	152
1921	0	78	11	76	14	0	5	179
1922	0	177	2	28	14	1	4	222
1923	0	202	4	30	12	2	9	250
1924	0	136	1	33	15	2	6	187
1925	0	124	1	19	13	0	8	170
1926	0	126	4	29	14	1	7	181
1927	0	165	7	32	19	2	4	229
Average for ten years								
1917-1926	0.0	99.3	4.2	51.8	14.5	1.3	9.7	173.1

SCARLET FEVER.

One hundred and sixty-five cases were notified during the year, being 166.1 per cent. of the average number for the past ten years. The disease was of a mild type.

In all cases contacts of Scarlet Fever cases were excluded from school for a fortnight, during which period they were visited at least twice and as many times thereafter as might be necessary.

The monthly incidence of the disease in Great Yarmouth during 1927 is shown in the following Table :—

Month	Total Number	Northern District	Southern District	Gorleston	Southtown and Cobholm	Runham Vauxhall	No. of Removals to Hospital
January	16	4	9	3	0	0	13
February	18	3	3	11	1	0	17
March	7	0	4	3	0	0	6
April	13	3	3	7	0	0	11
May	9	1	3	4	1	0	9
June	8	2	0	5	1	0	6
July	11	2	3	5	1	0	8
August	13	4	7	1	1	0	8
September	14	3	5	2	3	1	12
October	24	13	6	2	2	1	21
November	22	9	6	7	0	0	17
December	10	5	3	0	2	0	7
Totals	165	49	52	50	12	2	135

DIPHTHERIA.

Thirty-two cases of this disease were notified during the year, being 61.7 per cent. of the average number for the previous ten years.

Most of the cases nursed at home, and all who were removed to the Isolation Hospital were examined bacteriologically to confirm the diagnosis, and in addition before discharge from isolation. No diphtheria patient was discharged from the Isolation Hospital, until three successive swabs had shown absence of diphtheria bacilli. In addition to the foregoing, all contacts of school age were bacteriologically examined before being permitted to attend school, and adult contacts before going to work connected with food or clothing or other special circumstances. For further details on this subject see page 50.

The monthly incidence of the disease is shown in the following table:—

Month	Total Number	Northern District	Southern District	Gorleston	Southtown and Cobholm	Runham Vauxhall	No. of Removals to Hospital
January	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
February	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
March	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
April	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	3	3	0	0	0	0	3
June	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
July	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
August	2	1	0	0	1	0	2
September	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
October	6	2	2	2	0	0	6
November	4	3	0	0	0	1	4
December	9	3	3	2	1	0	8
Totals	32	19	5	5	2	1	30

Out of 32 cases notified, 12 were discovered by the bacteriological work carried out at the Municipal Laboratory. But for this Institution, therefore, 37.5 per cent. of the cases would not have been isolated.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

Two cases of this disease were notified during the year, but no evidence was found of any connection between the cases or connecting them with any other suspicious cases.

THE ENTERIC GROUP OF DISEASES.

Seven cases were notified in 1927. Of these, one was definitely contracted out of the District. The others were unconnected with each other, two of them being paratyphoid, and two not suffering from enteric disease.

ERYSIPELAS.

Nineteen cases of this disease were notified during the year.

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Two cases of this disease was notified during the year.

SMALL POX.

There were no cases of this disease during the year.

POLIOMYELITIS.

No cases were notified during the year.

TYPHUS FEVER, CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS,
TRENCH FEVER, MALARIA AND DYSENTERY.

No cases were notified during the year.

PNEUMONIA.

Fifty cases were notified during the year.

DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN

is provided free for the use of doctors who require it. It can be obtained at the Town Hall and Isolation Hospital during the day-time and at the two Police Stations during the night.

LABORATORY WORK, ETC.

Eight hundred and fifty-four bacteriological examinations were carried out in the Laboratory in 1927, the results being as follows:—

In cases of Diphtheria	In contacts of Diphtheria Patients	In cases for discharge	For Suspects	Total
Positive 15	Pos. 1	Pos. 12	Pos. 12	
Negative 14	Neg. 33	Neg. 77	Neg. 507	
<hr/> Total 29	<hr/> Tot. 34	<hr/> Tot. 89	<hr/> Tot. 519	
	Specimens of Sputum	Hairs for Ringworm		
	T.B. present 67	Pos. 19		
	T.B. not present 186	Neg. 11		
		*253	30	954

* Includes specimens from Patients in Isolation Hospital.

SHICK AND DICK TESTS.

No use has been made of these methods during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SMALL POX PREVENTION)
REGULATIONS, 1917.

There has been no occasion to act under these Regulations during the year.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(See page 9).

Extent to which school notifications of disease are utilized.—Teachers and attendant officers report outbreaks of the non-notifiable diseases to me as School Medical Officer. Such steps as are practicable, *e.g.*, the enforcement of Education Committees' Standing Orders *re* exclusion of cases and contacts, are carried out. I am averse to school closure (see page 38) and believe this to be the better method.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

(See page 11 to 12).

DISINFECTION.

The following articles were passed through the steam disinfectant at the Hospital:—

Beds	209	Counterpanes	203
Pillows	497	Mattresses	147
Bolsters	181	Clothing	1914
Slips	584	Carpets	32
Sheets	619	Rugs	28
Hangings	53	Towels	229
Blankets	717	Various	1018
		Total	6431

(The above list does not include a far larger number of articles from the Isolation Hospital itself).

514 rooms were disinfected with formalin vapour.

The cleansing of verminous persons is carried out by the Guardians, who have an up-to-date equipment at the work-house Infirmary.

TABLE II.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1927.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases notified.												Total Cases Notified in each Locality.					Total Cases Removed to Hospital.
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.											Northern District.	Southern District.	Gorleston and Southtown.	Kunham Vauxhall.	Port.	
		Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.							65 and upwards.
Pneumonia	50	3	3	3	5	10	4	3	8	3	2	3	10	11	29	—	—	
Diphtheria	32	—	—	1	3	16	8	—	3	—	—	—	19	5	7	1	—	
Membranous Croup	19	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	3	—	3	3	8	7	1	—	
Erysipelas	165	—	1	5	10	85	34	9	7	1	—	—	49	52	62	2	136	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	—	1	—	3	2	2	—	4	
Enteric Fever	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	
Cerebro-spinal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	
Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	
Lethargica	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals	281	7	5	8	17	18	49	18	21	7	11	7	86	82	109	4	170	

Estcourt Road Isolation Hospital:—57 beds for Enteric, Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.
 Gorleston Isolation Hospital:—12 beds for Small Pox, Cholera, Yellow Fever and Plague.

TABLE IIa.

AGES AT DEATH FROM NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING
THE YEAR 1927.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Deaths.												
	At all Ages	At Ages—Years.											
		Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards
Pneumonia ...	43	6	4	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	5	9	15
Diphtheria	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Membranous Croup													
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum													
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Totals ...	52	6	5	1	—	—	2	—	1	4	6	12	15

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	Cases.			Vision Un- impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Notified.	Treated.					
		At Home.	Hospital.				
I.	Yes	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
II.	”	”	—	”	—	—	—
III.	”	”	—	”	—	—	—
IV.	”	”	—	”	—	—	—

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

			Number.	Admissions to Hospital or Sanatorium.	Deaths.
Pulmonary	Males		46	56	26
	Females		57	25	33
	Total		103	81	59
Non- Pulmonary	Males		9	2	1
	Females		6	3	5
	Total		15	5	6

ANALYSIS OF TUBERCULOSIS CASES.

Age-periods.	All new cases, including those not notified.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	1
5	1	4	1	0	0	0	0	0
10	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	4	10	2	1	2	4	0	0
20	5	10	1	2	2	2	0	0
25	8	20	0	2	6	18	0	1
35	14	8	1	1	7	6	0	1
45	10	3	1	0	7	0	1	0
55	2	2	0	0	1	2	0	0
65 and upwards	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	2
Totals.	47	62	9	7	26	33	1	5

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, and Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62. No action was taken during the year under these powers.

PORT SANITARY DISTRICT.

The arrangements for inspecting vessels from infected ports, whilst still in the Roads, were continued as in previous years (*i.e.*, notification by Pilots, Boatmen and Customs, all of whom are kept supplied with lists of such ports, and very conscientiously carry out the arrangement), but owing to the great reduction in the Baltic trade, no vessels arrived from an infected port.

The Corporation has come to an agreement with the Guardians to disinfest seamen affected with vermin at the Infirmary cleansing station. Disinfection of their quarters and effects will be undertaken by the Council. There has been no occasion so far to put this into effect.

There were no ships from plague infected ports—in fact, we have no trade with any place in which plague is liable to occur. Some years ago a number of rats (black and brown) from the Port were examined for plague infection, without result. As the Corporation employs no rat-catchers for this purpose, statistics of rat destruction on ships are not available, but no unduly infested ship was found. Ten were visited by the Rat Officer.

SICKNESS IN THE PORT.

There were no cases during the year.

Return of the number and tonnage of vessels which arrived at the Port of Yarmouth during the year 1927 (excluding Fishing Vessels) :—

FROM FOREIGN PORTS.						COASTWISE.						NUMBER OF SEAMEN.*	
Sailing.		Steam.		Motor.		Sailing.		Steam.		Motor.		British.	Foreign.
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	No.
93	14016	491	95113	38	4044	167	12685	730	126860	109	8004	10116	4802

* Estimate only.

**Inspections made
in 1927.**

The number of vessels inspected on
entering the Port was as follows:—

			Arrivals.		Number Inspected.		Number reported defective	Number of orders issued
			Number	Tonnage	By the M. O. H.	By the Inspector		
FOREIGN—								
Steamers ...	...	491	95113	28	204	27	16
Motors ..	...	38	4044	3	26	16	3
Sailing ...	...	93	14016	9	35	9	4
Fishing ...	...	included	above		76	26	17
Total Foreign	...	622	113173	40	341	78	40	
COASTWISE—								
Steamers ...	...	730	126860	11	298	42	19
Motors ..	...	109	8004	1	25	8	4
Sailing ...	...	167	12685	2	55	8	3
Fishing ...	...	about 1000	40000	50	586	198	159
Total Coastwise	...	2006	187549	64	964	256	185	
Total Foreign and Coastwise	...	2628	300722	104	1305	334	225	

These vessels were of the following nationalities:—

British	...	...	964
Norwegian	...	...	51
Swedish	...	...	22
Dutch	...	...	101
Danzig	...	...	4
Danish	...	...	4
French	...	...	6
Belgian	...	...	28
Spanish	...	...	1
German	...	...	105
Finnish	...	...	15
Esthonian	...	...	5
Austrian	...	...	1
Latvian	...	...	3
Total			1,310

PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

There is none in this Port.

CARGO TRAFFIC.

The foreign trade of the Port was chiefly with Germany, Sweden, Holland and Norway.

The Imports were—Foreign ... Timber, Salt and Coal.
 „ „ „ Coastwise... Stone, Grain and General.
 The Exports were ... Fish.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water supply for the Port and Shipping is obtained from the Company's mains—a continuous and adequate supply for all purposes.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There were no cases during the year. It is very seldom that any case occurs. On two occasions in the Port a Master has wished to communicate with me by wireless, the telegram being delivered to me by the Post Office without delay. I do not think that any special arrangements, in this regard, are necessary. I have found in the Port that cases of sickness are always reported to the Pilot and Customs Officer, and that I have been informed immediately by telephone. In addition, the Sanitary Inspector is informed by the above officers of any reported illness. The above arrangements work very satisfactorily.

It is some years since a vessel arrived from a plague or cholera infected port. Shipping Agents, Pilots, Boatmen and Customs Officers are kept informed of the infected ports with which there is any trade. Vessels arriving from these ports are boarded by myself in the Roads before entering the Haven.

Cases of Infectious Disease are removed to the Isolation Hospital in the Corporation motor ambulance. Disinfection is carried out by the Health Department, clothing, etc. being removed for this purpose to the Disinfectors.

Arrangements for the cleansing of persons have been made with Guardians who have a cleansing station at the Infirmary.

Venereal Disease is treated at the Clinic at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. The Sanitary inspector has slips for distribution giving full particulars.

Bacteriological examination of rats and others will, if necessary, be carried out by Dr. Claridge, Pathologist, of Norwich.

Cases of Infectious Disease landed from Vessels.

Disease.	No. of cases during 1927.			Average No. of cases for last 5 years.	
Diphtheria	...	Nil	...	...	0·2
Scarlet Fever	...	Nil	...	...	0·4
Erysipelas	...	Nil	...	...	0·2

Cases of Infectious Disease occurring on vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival—none for last 5 years.

No rat-catcher has been appointed for the Port. Ships in the Port are regarded as houses in the town and receive only a proportionate amount of attention. In this connection ten ships were visited by the Rat Officer during the year.

NUISANCES.

Classification of Nuisances.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number inspected 1927.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other unhealthy conditions.
British ...	964	--	23	91
Other Nations ...	441	—	42	190

The following list shows the nature of the defects reported in the previous tables :—

Dirty forecastles or deck houses	...	46
Forecastles to repaint or limewash	...	15
Defects in sanitary arrangements	...	11
Foul pickle condemned	... ..	4 barrels
Defects in ventilation	... ..	56
Filthy galley	... ..	30
Offensive accumulations	... ..	26
Filthy bedding, clothing, etc.	...	9
Unsuitable sleeping accommodation	...	3
Vessels disinfected	... ..	49
Defective water tanks	... ..	5
Filthy w.c's.	... ..	78
Unwholesome provision store	...	6
Suspicious drinking water	...	2
Ship's stores in fore-castle	...	5
Repairs to ventilators	...	6
Cautions <i>re</i> bilge pumping	...	150

These defects necessitated re-inspection in most cases.

BILGE PUMPING ON FISHING VESSELS.—Bills were posted and handbills were distributed on board the fishing craft coming South for the Autumn Fishing, drawing attention to the above offence, and many masters and engineers of vessels were cautioned personally by the Inspector.

FOOD INSPECTION.

There is no trade in the articles coming under the various Food Regulations and there are no Shell-fish Beds in the Port.

MR. SPINKS submits his Annual Report on the work done by him as Inspector under the Canal Boats Acts, 1877 and 1884 and Shops Acts, 1912, 1913, 1914 and 1920, for the Great Yarmouth Urban Sanitary Authority during the year 1927.

CANAL BOATS ACTS.

During the year 57 boats were inspected, and these, without exception, were found to be very clean and well kept, and in no case were there females or children permanently residing on board.

On four boats the registration markings were not shown. On two vessels there was an insufficient provision for storage of fresh water, whilst one cabin required re-painting to render same waterproof. Upon my acquainting the owners of the craft of these matters, the registration plates were duly provided and affixed; also water bottles were provided and the necessary works executed. These were the only defects discovered by me during the year, the boats in this district being still excellently maintained.

There has again been no case of sickness on board a canal boat during the year.

REGISTRATION MATTERS.

Fifty-eight boats have been registered by this Authority, but I have ascertained that only about thirty of these boats are now in use as Canal Boats.

On three boats inspected, the Master had not a copy of the Certificates on Board.

There were no fresh registrations during the year, most of the boats in this district now registering under the Merchant Shipping Act.

SHOPS ACTS, 1912, 1914, 1920, and AMENDMENT ACT, 1921.

During the year 640 inspections of shops and stores were made by me under the above Acts, and many irregularities, *i.e.*, failing to affix necessary notices, etc., were attended to

on my intervention ; 109 prosecutions were instituted under the Shops Early Closing Act, for selling goods after the legal hour, and fines ranging from £1 to 2/6 were inflicted. In addition many traders were cautioned either personally or by letter from the Town Clerk.

SHOPS ACT, 1913.

In the course of my inspections I have not been able to ascertain that any shopkeeper has availed himself of the special provisions of the Shops Acts, 1913. Although several shop-keepers enquired as to the details of this Act, it is apparently unsuitable to local requirements.

EXEMPTIONS.

The " Holiday Resort " exemption (under section 11 of the Act) was again granted to the whole Borough, to operate during the months of June, July, August and September, and the exemptions granted to specified trades (on their application) under section 4, sub-section 4, of the Act, in order to cope with the extra business of the Autumn fishing season, remain in operation.



THE WORK OF THE RAT OFFICER.

This officer's position is often misunderstood. He is not a rat-catcher. Just as a sanitary Inspector enforces certain provisions of various enactments relating to Public Health, so the Rat Officer enforces the provisions of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act. His duty is to compel occupiers of premises to take the necessary steps to destroy rats or mice that are harbouring there. Even when, as is often the case, the occupier is willing to act, and in fact reports the matter to the Rat Officer, that officer still has the difficult task of compelling the occupiers of neighbouring premises to act at the same time and to co-ordinate their efforts. It is obvious that merely sporadic attempts on isolated premises would be valueless.

The Corporation have appointed an official Rat-catcher to work under the Rat Officer. He appears to be giving satisfaction to the occupiers of premises where he has operated.

During the year the Rat Officer made 4,726 visits, as follows :—

Slaughter-houses	...	...	...	108
Marine Stores	...	...	...	116
Fish Houses	...	...	...	1084
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	80
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	29
Bake Houses	...	...	...	200
Malt Houses	...	...	...	40
Stables	...	...	...	298
Piggeries	...	...	...	162
Timber Yards	...	...	...	30
Private Houses	...	...	...	284
Groceries and Provision Stores	...	...	...	94
Re-visits	...	...	...	887

Special and complaints	...	...	1214
Ships	...	...	10
Notices served under the Act	...	...	40
Fish Manure Works	...	...	50
			<hr/>
			4726
			<hr/>
Rats killed—			
Ferreting	...	..	3001
Known to be poisoned or trapped	...	...	233
			<hr/>
			3234
			<hr/>



Blind Persons Act.

REPORT OF HOME TEACHERS' WORK

From January, 1927 to December, 1927.

Miss Rees reports as follows :

The Register of Blind Persons has been brought up-to-date and an analysis drawn up showing their occupations and the sources of their income.

The number on the register is 126 in the following age groups :—

Under 5 years	...	...	0
Between 5 and 16 years	...	...	10
„ 16 „ 21 „	...	...	1
„ 21 „ 50 „	...	...	28
„ 50 „ 70 „	...	...	60
Over 70 years	...	...	27
			<hr/>
			126
			<hr/>

1136 visits have been paid during the year. 20 new cases have been discovered. There have been 5 deaths and 5 people have left the borough.

Instruction in Braille has been given to one person and in Moon Type to two. Two magazines in Braille have been circulated among readers. Two persons have been taught to make articles in pulp cane. Two persons have made wool rugs to order.

Four persons have been read to regularly and others taken for walks.

Successful application has been made for the Blind Pension on behalf of one person.

Gifts of bovril, fruit, etc., have been made to twelve people.

Regular weekly grants during times of difficulty have been made to four people.

New articles of clothing have been given to sixteen people. Materials for pastime occupations have been given to three people.

115 people have received a Christmas Gift of 3/6.

Since the coming into operation of the Wireless Telegraphy (Blind Persons Facilities) Act, nine certificates have been issued to enable registered blind persons to obtain free licences.

The Flag Day organised by the Mayoress resulted in £139 15s. 2d., and a further grant of £15 3s. 4d. was made by the Operatic and Dramatic Society.

Steady development of all blind welfare service has continued during the past year and frequent social gatherings have been held. Local townspeople have assisted the Committee in this work, and the Rotary Club organised a very enjoyable outing in the Summer.

ANALYSIS OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH REGISTER OF THE
BLIND ON DECEMBER 31ST, 1927.

Under 5 Years— 0

Between 5 and 16 Years—

at school	6	
at home	3.	1 M.D., 1 cripple, 1 delicate
at Thorpe Asylum	1 M.D.	10

Between 16 and 21 Years—

Domestic servant	1
------------------	---

Between 21 and 50 Years—

Weaver at Norwich	1
Domestic servant	1
In training at Norwich	1
Home workers	2
St. Dunstan's basketmaker	1
Tea agent	1
Shop keepers	2
Labourers	2
Infirmaries	4
Stable man	1
Sandwich man	1

AT HOME—

M.D.	1
In receipt of Pension	1
„ „ „ Disablement Benefit	1
„ „ „ „ „ and	
Parish Relief	1
Married women	4
In receipt of Parish Relief	1
Kept by relations	2
	28

Between 50 and 70 Years—

In Infirmary	3
Hawker and Blind Pension	1
School Teacher	1
Wood choppers—	2
(1 with Blind Pension)	
(1 with Blind Pension and Relief)	
Out porter with Blind Pension	1
Newsagent	1

AT HOME—

Independent means	4
Blind Pension only	28
Blind Pension and Insurance	2
Blind Pension and other Pension	5
Blind Pension and Parish Relief	1
Parish Relief only	3
Parish Relief and Insurance	1
Pension from Admiralty	1
Fortune teller	1
Compensation	2
Kept by relations	3

 60
Over 70 Years—

Infirmary	3
Hawkers with Blind Pension	2

AT HOME—

Blind Pension only	14	
Blind Pension and other Pension	2	
Blind Pension and Parish Relief	3	
Independent means	3	27

 TOTAL 126

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